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ABSTRACT

This book, formulated by the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry (GAP) Committee on the College Student, describes the complexity of graduate student lives and advocates providing students with mental health services and other support to help them cope more successfully with the challenges of graduate school. It provides a view of students through the eyes of psychiatrists who treat students and who also act as consultants to universities. Many case studies are used to amplify the discussion. Following an introduction and overview, chapters focus on the following issues: (1) decision to attend graduate school; (2) the university's role in providing support; (3) developmental issues (separation and family issues, interpersonal relationships, identity formation, character stabilization, philosophy of life); (4) general aspects of graduate school life (gender issues, faculty-student relationships, postponement issues, financial issues, changing fields); (5) diversity in the graduate student population (older students, married students, minority students, international students); (6) psychiatric disorders (psychoses, substance abuse, personality disorders, suicide); (7) treatment; (8) degree completion; and (9) transition from graduate school. A review of the literature is appended. (Contains approximately 110 references.) (CH)

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